h cont

atmosphere in the step of filling any of the heat-resistant filler and the heat-resistant antifriction material in the state of the aqueous solution into the gaps of the metallic reinforcing member in the foregoing fabricating method. In this way, it is surely possible to prevent bubbles from remaining inside the heat-resistant filler, whereby strength of the gasket basic substance can be enhanced.—

Please replace paragraph [0029] beginning on page 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--[0029] Instead of the above-described Step S3, as a reduced pressure immersion a low-pressure immersion process of the heat-resistant filler may be performed in Step S4. This lowpressure immersion process is conducted in accordance with the following processes of: putting the reinforcing member 4, which is the preliminarily molded part of the simple wire fabric, and the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant filler separately into a decompression chamber preferably at 10 Torr or less for deaerating physically-adsorbed gas and dissolved gas, respectively; immersing the preliminarily molded wire fabric for about 5 minutes into the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant filler rendered flowable by agitation in the decompression chamber at a decompression value similar to the foregoing in order to fill the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant filler into the gaps of the reinforcing member 4 made of the preliminarily molded wire fabric; and pulling out



A<sup>2</sup>

the reinforcing member 4 after the heat-resistant filler is solidified inside and around the reinforcing member 4 according to the thixotropic phenomenon.

Please replace paragraph [0044] beginning on page 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

24

AЗ

method of this embodiment, the above-described Step S4 can be adopted when the heat-resistant filler 7 in the state of the aqueous solution mainly composed of diatomaceous earth is filled into the gaps of the meshed metallic reinforcing member 4, whereby the reinforcing member 4 and the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant filler 7 are severally deaerated under reduced pressure atmosphere and then the reinforcing member 4 is immersed into the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant filler 7. In this way, it is surely possible to prevent bubbles from remaining inside the heat-resistant filler 7, whereby strength of the gasket basic substance 8 can be enhanced.

Please replace paragraph [0049] beginning on page 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a reduced pressure immersions a low-pressure immersion process of the heat-resistant antifriction material may be performed



Docket No. 8035-1003

This low-pressure immersion process is conducted in Step S12. in accordance with the following processes of: putting the reinforcing member 4, which is the preliminarily molded part of the simple wire fabric, and the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant antifriction material separately into a decompression chamber preferably at 10 Torr or less for deaerating physically-adsorbed gas and dissolved gas, respectively; immersing the preliminarily molded wire fabric for about 5 minutes into the aqueous solution of the heatresistant antifriction material rendered flowable by still standing in the decompression chamber at a decompression value similar to the foregoing in order to fill the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant antifriction material into the gaps of the reinforcing member 4 made of the preliminarily molded wire fabric; and pulling out the reinforcing member 4 after the heat-resistant antifriction material is solidified inside and around the reinforcing member 4 according to the dilatancy phenomenon by agitating the heat-resistant antifriction material vigorously. --

Please replace paragraph [0058] beginning on page 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--[0058] Furthermore, according to the fabricating method of this embodiment, if the reinforcing member 4 and the aqueous solution of the heat-resistant antifriction material 11

